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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2003

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The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Room 8-B201 Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing in regards to the application seeking consent to merger between Univision Communications Inc. (Univision) and Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation (HBC) currently before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). It is my understanding that the Department of Justice has favorably completed its review of the application, which included an extensive review of any impact it might have on competition. Given the public benefits arising from the proposed transaction, I support this pro-competitive merger.

This proposed merger of a television company with a radio company is pro-competitive, allowing the combination of Univision's and HBC's resources to enhance and expand the media services available to the Hispanic community, and therefore enabling Univision and HBC to better compete with the larger, established Englishlanguage media groups. In addition, as more than 80% of Univision's and HBC's employees are Hispanic, the increased ability that this merger will bring to Univision to compete against much larger broadcasters will not only promote the growth of Hispanic media, but allow these individual employees to ultimately bring their training and unique perspective to other Spanish and English-language stations that hire them in the future. Finally, the increased competitiveness of Hispanic media as a result of the merger will attract new capital to the industry, leading to increased management and ownership opportunities for those wishing to serve the Hispanic community.

Regrettably, recent reports indicate an attempt by opponents of the merger to politicize the proposed transaction by casting Univision and HBC as "pro-Republican" companies controlled by "non-Hispanics." Beyond the fact that the ethnicity and political leanings of the shareholders of a media company are in no way relevant to whether a proposed transaction is in the public interest, the efforts to politicize this proceeding are an unfortunate attempt to distract the FCC from its statutory duty to promptly approve applications that comply with the FCC's rules and therefore promote the public interest.

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Opponents of the merger have also sought to have the FCC retroactively modify its rules to designate Spanish-formatted stations as a separate "market," thereby inhibiting the growth and competitive capabilities of broadcasters who choose to serve the Hispanic community. This approach is nothing more than regulatory gerrymandering which will serve to marginalize the Hispanic community while creating a separate class of broadcast stations with a different set of rules based solely upon program content.

It is my understanding that this transaction complies with all FCC rules, requests no waivers, and seeks no special consideration. I therefore urge you to complete your review and act on the application as promptly as possible.

Sincerely,

David Dreier

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